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In the comparison of Agis and Cleomenes and the Gracchi, chapter v, ἐκριπισθέντας δὲ τῷ πρὸς τοὺς ἐνισταμένους ἀγῶνι καὶ θυμῷ παρὰ τὴν αὐτῶν φύσιν ὥσπερ πνοαῖς, ἐφείναι περὶ τὰ ἔσχατα τὴν πολιτείαν ὁμολόγουν, Perrin translates: "nay, it was agreed that they were caught up by the fury of the contest with their opponents and by a passion contrary to their own natural bent, as by blasts of wind, and so let the state drive into extremest danger." This hardly makes it clear that it was the detractors of the Gracchi who made this admission; the subject of ὁμολόγουν can only be οἱ φθονοῦντες of the preceding clause. In his interpretation of this passage Perrin follows Doehner. It should perhaps be noted that Sieffert-Blass and Holden, after Reiske, take περὶ τὰ ἔσχατα to mean "the last acts of their career," contrasting this with τῆς πρώτης ὑποθέσεως in the following sentence, and connect ὥσπερ πνοαῖς closely with ἐφείναι. This yields the sense "in the last acts of their political career let themselves drift as before the winds." It would make little difference whether τὴν πολιτείαν be the direct object of ἐφείναι, or an accusative of specification, ἐφείναι being intransitive, as has been suggested by editors. The interpretation of Reiske seems somewhat easier than that of our editor.

In the Life of Philopoemen, chapter i, Perrin reads ὥς . . . ἀπεργασόμενοι, but translates the variant ἀπεργασάμενοι.

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*Das Wesen des römischen Kaisertums der ersten zwei Jahrhunderte.*

Von OTTO TH. SCHULZ. ("Studien zur Geschichte und Kultur des Altertums," VIII Band, 2 Heft.) Paderborn. 1916. Pp. 94.

*Vom Prinzipat zum Dominat. Das Wesen des römischen Kaisertums des dritten Jahrhunderts.* Von OTTO TH. SCHULZ. ("Studien zur Geschichte und Kultur des Altertums," IX Band, 4/5 Heft.) Paderborn. 1919. Pp. 304.

The most interesting thing about these volumes is the fact that they were ever published. The first of them, according to the preface to the second, was printed almost as soon as it was completed. Evidently, therefore, it was written after the war began. The second volume bears upon its title-page the legend, "Entworfen im dritten Kriegswinter; abgeschlossen im Monat Januar 1918." Its first footnote acknowledges with thanks the loan of books from the library of a certain "General of Infantry, Dr. M. von Bahrfeldt," who apparently was taking time amid his military tasks to seek out the treatises on the Roman Empire published in the allied countries since the war began. Finally, it is apparent from the opening of this same volume that the first received its regular meed of discussion and castigation in the

scholarly reviews, the *odium scholasticum* refusing to be drowned even by war's alarms. The bitterest hater of Germany cannot but pay his tribute of amazement to the manner in which the German scholarly machine kept grinding on, regardless of the fact that sky and solid earth were crashing above and beneath it.

The volumes themselves are, however, disappointing. Their title-pages seem to promise something for which we have long been looking, a fresh treatment of the constitutional evolution of the Roman Empire. That promise is not redeemed. The first volume is simply an incomplete summary of the familiar views of Mommsen regarding the Augustan Principate. The author vaunts himself a heretic and proclaims his liberation from the yoke of the master's authority. But his dissent is confined practically to one point. He fastens upon the passage in the *Staatsrecht* (II<sup>3</sup>, 842-44) in which Mommsen sets forth the doctrine that both the army and the Senate had a constitutional right to set up an emperor; and urges the more sensible view that *legally* a Princeps received his authority from the Senate and that the military acclamation, however influential in actuality, had no constitutional force until confirmed by decree of the Senate and people. The two volumes together are nothing but a polemic in support of this thesis. With true German thoroughness all the evidence upon the question is assembled, quoted, and discussed. In portentous German periods the inevitable conclusion—whose accuracy common sense must recognize as soon as it is stated—is ponderously set forth again and again. The really valuable part of the work is the collection of materials in the second volume, and the last chapter in the same volume, in which certain obscure survivals in the third century of characteristic features of the Augustan Principate are noted. The constitutional theory that the Princeps derives his authority from the Senate disappears, according to Schulz, with the accession of Carus in 282, not with that of Diocletian in 284.

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*Vergil. A Biography.* By TENNEY FRANK. New York: Henry Holt & Co., 1922. Pp. vi+200.

Professor Frank's absorption for many years in the social and economic history of Rome indicates what we may expect and welcome in his recent sallies into the field of literary interpretation and of literary history. He is manifestly engaged in the task of relating the literature of the pre-Augustan and Augustan periods to the social, political, and intellectual environment of the age from which it came. By careful study of the contacts, personal, social, and political, of various individuals he has often been able to deepen or clarify our knowledge of the developments in the first century B.C. In